

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (currently amended): A piezoelectric element comprising:
~~which includes~~ a lower electrode,
a piezoelectric film formed on the lower electrode, and
an upper electrode formed on the piezoelectric film,
wherein the piezoelectric film includes a lower layer portion having column crystals, and an upper layer portion having column crystals which are continuous from ~~those the~~ column crystals in the lower layer portion and ~~have~~ having sizes larger than ~~those the column~~ crystals in the lower layer portion.

14. (currently amended): The piezoelectric element according to claim 13,
wherein the lower electrode is patterned to have a predetermined shape, a first piezoelectric layer, which is a lowermost layer of a plurality of piezoelectric layers constructing the piezoelectric film, is formed only on the lower electrode, and ~~the rest~~ remaining layers of the plurality of piezoelectric layers are formed, covering end faces of the lower electrode and the first piezoelectric layer, and

the first piezoelectric layer and a second piezoelectric layer are formed directly on the first piezoelectric layer to construct the lower layer portion.

15. (currently amended): The piezoelectric element according to claim 14, wherein a thickness of each of the first and second piezoelectric layers is thinner than that of each of the ~~rest of the~~ remaining piezoelectric layers.

16. (previously presented): The piezoelectric element according to claim 14, wherein the end faces of the lower electrode and the first piezoelectric layer are inclined at a predetermined angle with respect to surfaces thereof.

17. (previously presented): The piezoelectric element according to claim 14, wherein metallic layers, which are electrically disconnected from the lower electrode, are provided in vicinities of edges of the piezoelectric film.

18. (previously presented): A liquid-jet head, comprising the piezoelectric element according to any one of claims 13 to 17 as a driving source of liquid ejection.